THE 49TH CONGRESS.

An Epitome of Its Preceedings the Past Week.

Congress is getting fairly down to business and gives promise of much activity in various directions. Thus far the two questions most prominently brought forward are silver and justice to the soldiers.

PENSIONS FOR WIDOWS.

In the House, on Wednesday, Mr. Matson relatives. It provides that "from and after the passage of this act the rate of pension for widows, minor children, and dependent relatives now on the pension-roll, or hereafter to be placed on the pension-roll, and entitled to receive a less rate than hereinafter provided, shalf be \$12 per month; and nothing herein shall be construed to affect the existing allowance of \$2 per month for each child under the and just legislation. age of 16 years." The bill had been favorably reported by the Committee on Invalid Pensions. The consideration of the bill occupied the most of Wednesday and Thursday. No final vote was reached, but the debate gave strong assurance that the bill would pass. The trouble was with the amendments that were offered. Several members desired to incorporate in the bill the repeal of the arrears limitation and other matters appertaining to pensions. These were strongly opposed by many, measures proposed and would support them He said: most carnestly whenever they came up as sep- | Will any gentleman in this House say that he or load down this bill with amendments covering so wide a range, lest the passage of the bill itself be put in jeopardy. On motion of Mr. Matson the House went | ance of 88 a month.

into Committee of the Whole for the considera-

Mr. Matson made a speech urging the passage of the measure, in which he said: I apprehend the proposition in reference to which this House wishes to be informed as to what this is going to cost the people and the Government. A very careful estimate was made less than two years since, based upon the number of this class of pensieners upon the roll, and upon the number of applications of this kind pending, by a gentleman thoroughly familiar with the Pension Office, \$5,000,000 the amount that would have to be added to the appropriation for pensions to meet this Here is a proposition to add #1 a month to the pension of widows and of old men and old women of this country-to those who have lost their husbands and to those who have lost their sons upon whom they expected to lean in their old age. This is a very moderate proposition.

In reply to questions from several members Mr. Matson said the bill embraced also widows of the war of 1812 and the Mexican war, all who are on the rolls, whether the husbands and fathers lost their lives during the war or from

Mr. Henderson (Iowa) said he was warmly in favor of the bill, and would like to see the amount further increased to \$16 per month. Mr. Matson said this had been urged in the Committee, but they had thought best to recommend 812 as a compromise between those who wanted it made \$16 and those who were opposed to any increase. He hoped no amendments to the bill would be offered, except those relating to its subject-matter.

Mr. Grosvenor (Ohio) opposed the amendment. He said he was strongly in favor of it

on its merits, but he did not want it put in this bill. He said: I feel as much interest in the proposition offered by the gentleman from Indiana, which involves

the repeal of the proviso to the arrears act, as it is possible for me or for any other Member on this floor to feel. For years, as a Member of the Pension Committee of the Grand Army of the Republie, I have been laboring to bring about this legislation. But I want to say simply this at this time. The bill under consideration is a bill about which there seems to me to be no controversy whatever. It has been embodied substantially in every proposition bringing about the needed reform of the elefective and blundering legislation of the country that has been submitted to Congress for the past ten years. It stands alone. It is no part of a system, necessarily. Everybody is in favor of its passage who is in favor of affording some remedy and some relief to this class of pensioners of the country. There are a great many other propositions, Mr. Chairman, that have already been submitted to this House, and there are many more to be submitted, and the whole of them, or a large majority of code involving, if intelligent legislation is to pre-vail, a change of the whole system upon which pensions hitherto have been granted. Among these are the equalization of bounties and the repeal of the proviso to the arrears act, but they stand in such a position, the one to the other, that it is necessary and proper that ultimately the Committee on Invalid Pensions shall evolve out of the mass of legislation some systematic scheme or proposition. I know not what their purpose is, but it is enough for me to know that here is a single proposition everybody is in favor of, which comes in such a form that it can be adopted now; and in such a form that, if pa-sed in the House, it will speedily be passed in the Schate and become a law of the country.

reported by the committee. He said, speaking of the inequalities of our present pension laws: For instance, Mr. Speaker, "total disability" of a soldier-and what can be greater than that-is pensioned at 28 a month, while we have classifications of peasions for private soldiers that run up as high as \$70 a month. Many of those who are drawing such pension, although disabled by the loss of a leg or arm, are still able to carn a livelihood, and many of them do earn a livelihood. But the poor soldier who was shot through the body and totally disabled, rendered anable to do a day's work, what | countrydoes be get" Eight dollars a month, "Total disability stands graded at the highest noteh and draws the lowest pension! How comes this? It grows out of the fact that legislation precisely like time to time for the benefit of special classes. Some 100 persons apply for a special rate for a particufar kind of wound, and state that there are no more than 100 such eases, and they ask a pension of \$15 or 20 a monto. Another class apply, and there are only perhaps 200 of them, and they want 524 a month. Nobody wants to vote against the soldier. and the claimants go on the roll at that rate. Another class have applied, and they are allowed \$36 a month; another class have applied, and they get \$50 a month; another class have applied and they get \$50 a month; another class have applied and they get \$50 a month; another class have applied and they get \$50 a month; another class have applied and they get \$50 a month and they get \$50 a month another class have applied and they get \$50 a month another class have applied and they get \$70 a month; while the poor, brokendown veteran, who did not happen to be injured in the exact place and manner that these special acts describe, gets only \$8 a month. Sir, it is a shame and disgrace to this people that such inequalities of ask this pittance; there is my right hand to show pension exist. It would be better for us to pass a general bill repealing all existing laws upon the subject and then to pass an act that would grade these pensions and make them as they ought to be, in accordance with the disability that the soldier has received. Another objection I have to this bill is that it provides for all widows now on the pension-roll of who may bereafter go upon the pen-sion-roll. I are opposed to that. We are still paying pensions to the widows of the soldiers of 1812, For example, you find a widow of a soldier of the war of 1812 on the pension-tall, and when you look into the facts you find that some old man, 70 or 75 | He said; of him during the last two or three weeks of his life, and then got herself placed on the pension-roll killed in selion, or, if it should be further extended, was married to the man before he was on the verge

Mr. Steele (Ind.) Will the gentleman from Wisconsin virbitor a question? Mr. Steele. I desire to ask the gentleman whether he has may objection to old veterans marrying young girls? [Laughter]

Mr. Bragg. No. sir: no. sir. It shows a quality that every good soldier was remarkable for, love of the sex. But, sir, I have objections to these young misses becoming soldiers' widows to such an extent as to fasten themselves as pensioners upon the Treasury of the United States. A young girl may marry m old man, and I think very much of her when she marries him for love; but when she marries him for ducats, then all my respect for her is

gone. [Laughter and applause.] Mr. Mills (Tex.) argued that some readjustment of the revenues of the Government would be necessary to meet this outlay. He said:

I am not opposed to paying pensions to soldiers or to the widows of soldiers, but 1 do believe that our taxation ought to be so arranged that the wealth of this country will contribute something to sustain those whom the fortunes or misfortunes of war have made dependent upon the aid of the Government. The wealthy people escaped all the privations and sufferings of that great struggle. They stayed at home and husbanded their resources, or they shipped their wealth out of the country. As soon as the war was over they came, by their representatives, into this House and had all the taxation they were bearing taken off their shoulders. We are called upon to maintain a vast pension establishment, I nm not opposed. I repeat it, to the payment of pensions to soldiers and their widows. It is a debt of gratitude that every country owes to its gallant deaders and those who are dependent upon them, But our own intelligence, our duty to our constituents and our duty to our country require that we should reimpose the taxation on the wealth of the | sacrifice that a woman can make for her country country and compel it to bear at least some part of than to give him whom she has chosen to be her life the burden necessary to sustain the pension estab- companion, him who is the father of her children,

tistiment of this country.

Mr. Henderson (Iowa), speaking on Mr. has received the pitiful sum of \$8 per month. The soldier who was slightly injured received an equal Browne's amendment, said he was heartily in favor of it, but did not want to see it tacked on to the present bill. He said :

I have introduced a bill to repeal the limitation in regard to the payment of arrearages. My State is in favor of it. The political party of which I am a maintain the integrity of the Government and to member declared in its last convention in our State in favor of the repeal of that limitation. But, as has been so ably stated by the gentleman from Ohio, there are many measures which appeal to the patriotic heart and the just mind in favor of the soldier, but which cannot be incorporated in the present bill. Let them in their order be taken up and

fairly met. I see an opportunity for political advantage, perhaps, by forcing this amendment upon the House; but I do not ask that advantage. I want no better advantage for my political party than that it give its earnest support, without hesitation, without let or hindrance, to this proposition in favor of the women of this country whom the war has deprived (Ind.) called up for consideration bill 545, to of their natural and legal support in their hard increase the pensions of widows and dependent struggle for existence. It at best can go but a short distance toward their support, and can never com-pensate for the great losses that they have sus-

opportunity to meet this question, and I appeal to all gentlemen here to look this question fairly in the face. Here are a number of people to be benefited who are without votes, without political influence, and who appeal to us simply as those crushed and deserving beings who need the aid of generous

God knows that I believe every soldier should be pensioned from the hour he was injured. God knows that I can with a clear conscience vote to give to the widows, fathers, and mothers provided for in this bill \$16 a month; and that amendment I would offer to this bill but for the fact that I would not lay a single straw in the way of the speedy adoption of this proposed legislation. My hope now is that the gentleman in charge of this bill will take such action as will enable the intelligence to be sent over the wires to-night that the House of Representatives has passed this just legislation

Mr. Wolford (Ky.) opposed the amendment, who said they were heartily in favor of the but advocated the bill in an earnest speech.

arate bills, but they did not think it wise to any other member here could live on \$12 a month? bend down this bill with amendments covering "Oh, well," they will say, "the soldier's widow must be more economical than we; they are able to stand hardship and want, while the country doles out to them little by little the pitiful allow-Mr. Chairman, when this country was poor, when

tion of the bill, Mr. Wellborn (Tex.) in the little to pay with this pension was fixed at \$8 a month. It was then the measure of the wages paid to the soldier. But, thank God, through the blessings of Heaven and the knowledge of the people in digging mines and cultivating the fields, in bringing forth the treasure from under the earth and on the earth and utilizing them, we have grown rich Now, there are men of large capital-and I agree

with gentlemen that there ought to be a way to make men of large incomes pay a part, and I did introduce a bill to that effect, but I will not undertake to discuss it here-I say there are men of large capital and there are wealthy and prosperous enterorises throughout the land. Now we are able to pay and pay liberally. This little pittance to the oblier's widow will not be felt. I take this bill just as I find it. I am for it most heartily. It creates in the hearts of the widows of our brave sol-diers a grateful spirit. They will say, "I gave to my country all that I had; I would have given more if it was necessary, but they now remember me in my old age and give me enough to cat and care for me, as a recompense for the service of my husband or the service of my son who lost his life in * * * Lagree with my distinguished friend from Wisconsin that many amendments are necessary to the pension law; but I do not agree with him disease contracted in the service. It did not that because a young and fair and handsome lady, enlarge the number of those entitled to pen- with patriotic feeling burning in her heart, admired the old soldier of 1812 who had marched to Canada or went from Boston to Lake Champlain, who folties of his country-I do not agree with the gentleman in attributing unworthy motives to the young lady who married such a veteran. Though he was wounded she loved him. She loved him because of his patriotism. She had in her heart and her soul a great admiration for the American cause and for tise American flag and for the American name and glory, and that gave her a foundation to begin with, to induce her to love the old man who had fought for his country. She did love him and married him

and nursed him. And when he died will you tell Mr. Browne (Ind.) offered an amendment reher, "You cannot have a pension because you, a pealing the limitation clause of the arrears of | young and beautiful girl, might possibly have married the old man in order just to get a pension when he died." Do you believe it? That is not reasonable. She had higher motives. But even if it were so-if she did marry him to get a pension. and took care of him and soothed the last days of the old soldier so that he was allowed to go down to the grave in peace, under the kind and tender hands and attentions of a lady, such as no man can use-if she did all that, I say she deserves her pension anyhow, and I would feel all the stronger

inducement to vote for it. Mr. Reagan (Tex.) opposed the bill. He was not in favor of indiscriminate pensions, claiming, however, that he would pay them to all who justly deserved them. He charged, with great vehemence, that gentlemen of both parties were urging this measure for political effect.

I do not expect to defeat the passage of this bill. I do not expect to defeat the passage of may bill, however great an outrage it may be upon common sense or upon common right, or however great a wrong upon the real soldiers or the soldiers' widows. I say I do not expect to defeat it; but I do, in the name of my constituents, in the name of the taxpayers of this country, protest against the universal indiscriminate giving of pensions to all men

and women who come and ask for them. Mr. Dunn (Ark.) offered an amendment to place on the pension-roll all survivors of the Seminole and other Indian wars and the Mexi-

can war. Mr. Matson, speaking again in favor of the

main bill, said: My friend from Texas [Mr. Reagan] says that he is opposed to this bill because there are some widows upon the rolls who ought not to be there. He raises his hands in horror and says, "Where will this thing end? What are we coming to? Mr. Chairman, in all kindness to that gentleman, I want to say that he ought to have thought about that long ago. [Applause on the Republican side.]. The wid-ows of this country whose husbands lost their lives Mr. Bragg (Wis.) opposed Mr. Browne's in defense of the flag are entitled to be provided for amendment, and also the bill itself in the form in a way that is commensurate with the dignity and ability of the Government of the United States applause , and it does not lie in the mouth of anyone, no matter where he has been or what he has been, o carp at small matters and say that because of this little thing or that little thing this bill should be rejected. I apprehend, Mr. Chairman, that the very life of this bill, and the very life of any measure that is proposed in the way of pension legislation in this Congress, depends upon the proposition that the measure shall stand or fall upon its own merits, as a representative of the people of Michigan, I pro-and I know there is no class of soldiers in this pose to vote for pensions whenever my conscience -quarreling among themselves as they are, as we all know-there is no class of them that want to be pulled through Congress under the petticoats of these old women. They want the pensions of the women first increased, and the Pension Comthis which is now proposed has been enacted from | mittee of the Grand Army of the Republic, among its very first propositions, recommends the increase of the widows' pension from \$8 to \$12 per month.

Mr. Pettibone (Tenn.) favored both the bill and Mr. Browne's amendment. He said: I have in my mind the case of a soldier whose good right hand was partially demolished by a musket-shot while he was poising his revolver in answer that thousands of men would make to-day, "Because when the war closed I had a competence; I did not need \$8 a month from the Government; but now my property has been swept away and I

what I have done for the country." Now, I say it is absurd at this late day to cling to the idea embodied in the act which took effect in If the money is due to the soldier, give it to I am in favor of this proposed amendment. And, Mr. Chairman, I believe the right way to do a thing is to do it when you can. We can pass this bill with this righteous amendment this morning, if gentlemen will not abandon their honest sentiments on this floor.

widows who were married prior to its passage."

years of age, married a young girl who took care There is certainly a difference between the rights of a widow who gave her husband to the service and the Republican party stands pledged to suitable was killed in battle or contracted disabilas the wislow of a soldier. Now this bill should ity from which he afterward died, and the rights of widows and orphans of those who died in the war. provide only for the widows of soldiers who were a widow who shall marry hereafter. There is a The Republican party also pledges itself to the reit should be only to those cases where the woman | which I think will be recognized by every one

Mr. Bayne (Pa.) urged the passage of the bill unincumbered by amendments. At the proper time he would warmly support the repeal of the arrears limitation and some other propositions that had been offered, but now he wanted to see this bill passed just as it was.

Mr. Reagan (Tex.) supported Mr. Warner's amendment. He said:

Mr. Chairman, under this bill as it stands, in 10 years from now, or 20 years from now, a soldier may marry, if he lives that long. When he dies his widow then goes on the pension-roll. Thirty years after the war is over, 40 years, if he lives that long, he may marry and the widow is entitled to a pension for 15 or 20 years longer. If she lives to 80 years of age, all the years of her life this pension goes to her because she married a man 20, 30, or 40 years after he preformed the service which rendered him entitled to a pension. Is that right? Mr. Warner (Ohio.) Let me suggest to the gentleman from Texas in this connection that there are now on the pension-roll something like 18,009 names of widows of the soldiers of the war of 1812, while there are only some 300 to 500 soldiers of that war on the roll. Fifty years from now, under the provisions of this bill, how many thousands of pensioners will be on the pension-roll is a calcula-

make. Mr. Morrill (Kan.) made an eloquent appeal for the bill, deprecating the putting on of amendments to endanger it. Said he: The time has now come when simple justice to a large class which suffered more from the effects of the late war than any other demands that this in- their beginning to the explosion of Flood Rock, crease should be made. I can conceive of no greater

her pride and her support; and for this sacrifice she

tion that human foresight cannot undertake to

sum, and the one who returned from the war with the loss of an arm received three times as much. As an illustration of this unjust discrimination let us suppose that from some Northern village two men, neighbors, left their homes at their country's call to preserve it from the threatening danger of dissolution. Their circumstances were the same; each had an humble home, a loving wife, and two or three young children. The one returned to that home maimed and crippled by the loss of a limb but still strong and vigorous, with the prospect of a long life before him, spared to return to his family to protect them and to aid them in the battle of

life-spared to cheer and comfort that wife and to watch over those children and direct and assist in their education. The Government allows him \$24 per month to aid him in supporting his family and educating his children. The other never the face of her husband. He falls upon the battlefield; and she is a widow, and those children are fatherless. He is hurriedly buried on some unknown field, and she has not the poor consolation of water-I am glad that the rules of the House give us this life. Alone and usaided, except by the scanty pittance that the Government pays her, she must feed clothe, and educate that little family. Is this just? Is a limb more valuable than a life? I envy neither

the head nor the heart of any man who would deny

to this suffering class this small increase so justly due them, and for which they have so long waited I appeal to the Members of this side of the House to stand by the bill as it is and secure its early passage. There is not a village in the North but has his country who is toiling and struggling to keep the wolf from the door. On the distant prairies of the grand young Commonwealth that I in part represent hundreds of soldiers' widows are living in poor sod houses or rude dug-outs scantily protected plains, struggling to maintain themselves while they take advantage of the generous provisions of hat law which gives them a homestead if they will live upon it. To all of these the passage of this bill

will come as a benediction.

I do not believe it is right or proper to distinguish seeds of disease while serving his country and died from the effects of the disease so contracted simply because the widow is unable to prove that he died

ingraft in the bill, that it shall apply only to those who are married now; that if a man who is entitled to a pension marries after this bill passes his ild not be entitled to draw a pension under this bill. One word more. We hear gentlemen upon this

floor counting what this is to cost. It is right in a matter of this kind that we should look to but one thing and ask what is right and count the cost afterward. It would have been well in 1861, when his enlistment, and the other, a Captain, was gentiemen fired upon the flag of their country, to have stopped then and counted what it would cost to pension the maimed men of this country, instead of stopping to count the cost now when it comes to doing justice to the men who saved the life of the | The lady in question remained the sole sur-

providing: That if any invalid pensioner, pensioned for a has died or shall hereafter die, leaving a widow, or minor children under sixteen years of age, or both at the date of the death of such pensioner, such widow or minor children shall be entitled in the charged her duties. Her faithfulness has been order of succession named to an original pension | rewarded by promotion, and she now fills a poin their own right under existing law without sition of responsibility, with a good salary. being required to prove that the death of such pensioner was due to his military or naval service of the United States.

In the course of his remarks Mr. Townshend

said: I am not afraid to announce now and here that I am one of those who believe in liberal appropriations for the soldier-not only the soldier of the late war, but the soldier of every war where citizens of the Republic have sustained the flag of our country. I believe in the policy of pensioning every soldier of every war that this country has ever been engaged in when the soldier has suffered disability by reason of his service for the Government; and when such a soldier has become old and unable to maintain himself, whether he incurred the disability in war or not, I feel it to be a duty resting upon us that we should at least keep him from the poor-house in his old age.

It was for this reason that I introduced into this House at the last session a bill pensioning all the surviving soldiers of the Mexican war, because I believed that the time had come when we should follow the precedents which had been established in reference to the soldiers of the Revolutionary war and the war of 1812. And, sir, when I believe that sufficient time has elapsed since the late war I shall be ready to put upon the pension-roll every man who defended the flag of his country in that

In my judgment no better use can be made of the surplus money in the Treasury than to distribute it among the people through the hands of our army and navy pensioners. The money you put into the pocket of the pensioner is not hoarded. It goes into circulation in every neighborhood and helps to increase the internal prosperity of the

Mr. Cutcheon (Mich.) very strongly advocated the passage of the bill without amendment. He said :

I do not envy the men who can stand up here and oppose increasing the pensions of widows from \$8 estimate such gentlemen can place on the value of ure it at \$96 a year and are opposed to increasing it

time I have I desire to refer to the language of the distinguished gentleman from Texas [Mr. Reagan]. That gentleman in his language has seen fit to impugn the motives, to impugn the integrity, of every gentleman on this floor, on the one side or the other of this House, who votes to increase the pensions for soldiers of the late war or for their widows or orphans. For one, I do not acknowledge the right and I never will concede the propriety of the gentieman from Texas or any other gentiemen on this floor impugning my motives when I vote pensions for the widows of the men who fell in the crash and carnage of battle or for the orphan children they left behind them. The gentleman can look at the subject perhaps more impartially than we can; we never had an opportunity of looking at it from the outside as he has. [Laughter and applause.]

I do not come here, Mr. Chairman, to represent the Ninth Congressional District of the State of Michigan to be icctured by the gentleman from Texas on that subject or any other. So far as I have the privilege of a seat on this floor, in my integrity as a representative of the people of Michigan, I proor my judgment deems it proper to vote for them without asking his permission or the permission of any other gentleman of this House.

Mr. Townshend's amendment was rejectedaves 108, noes 115. Mr. Warner's amendment was also rejected—ayes 105, noes 126. Mr. Milliken (Me.) and Mr. Holmes (Iowa) spoke in favor of Mr. Browne's amendment

repealing the arrears limitation. They urged its passage now as a part of this bill. Mr. Hanback (Kan.) said: I live in a State where there are over 100,000 sol-

Union. I know men, hundreds and thousands of them, who were too proud in the earlier days to ask for a pension. I know men who never knew of the arrears-of-pensions act or of the limitation. They lived out upon the far prairies, bravely trying to ight out the great battle of life as they had bravely | declaring he would do if he died the next mofought to a glorious conclusion under the flag of their country the battle for the preservation of that country's life. They had no means of knowing these things, and they rested upon what they supposed was their right at any time in the future. I am in favor of the bill as proposed by the committee; I am also in favor of the amendment of the his seat and responded. This, however, was gentleman from Indiana [Mr. Browne]. One reason why I am in favor of it is because the party I belong to said what I am about to read. This is what the since then he has been at his home under the Arenue, and as such I commend it to my friends," Republican party said at its last National Conven- care of physicians. and after a time we shall reach a like point in re- Mr. Warner (Ohio) offered an amendment tion. I want to know whether the delegates there Mr. Rankin was 52 years of age, having been gard to the widows of the soldiers of the last war. providing that "this act shall apply only to meant it or not, and I want to know whether that born at Passaic, N. J., in 1833. He served in sentiment is to be voiced here by the representa-

tives of that party to-day or not: able pensions for all who were disabled and for the broad difference between the two cases, and one | peal of the limitation contained in the arrears act of upon the floor. It is because of that broad difference between the two cases I have offered the amendment.

In the name and in behalf of the soldiers of this country who did their duty when their country was not worth a continental if they had not done so, I ask the House to do this act of justice to them and theirs.

Mr. Browne made an elaborate argument in favor of his amendment. At this point the debate was cut off by adjournment, and the | mains on Tuesday. subject went over to the next week.

Gen. John A. Logan,

U. S. Senator from Illinois, writes: "Some years ago I was troubled more or less with rheumatism, and have, within the last year or so, suffered intensely with the same disease. I be gan to take 'Durang's Rheumatic Remedy,' and am thoroughly satisfied that I have been cured by its use. I do not hesitate to recom-

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General John Newton, Chief of Engineers, United States Army, originator of the plan and director of the work, has prepared a complete account of the operations for the removal of the obstructions at Hell Gate, from in October last, which will appear with full and which has so long retained him, and now connew illustrations as the leading article in the sents with regret to his retirement. Mr. Cannon February number of "The Popular Science | was formerly cashier of a bank in St. Paul, Minn.,

tional Capital.

THE STORY OF A TREASURY CLERK. There is a lady, now about 45 years of age,

employed in the Treasury, whose life has been a sadly eventful one. She was born in Mobile, Ala. While yet in her teens, before the war, she was sent North by her parents, who were | ing more and more in disfavor. To an outsider returns; that young wife never again looks upon | wealthy, to be educated. She attended for two | there does not appear any good reason why ing with her tears the flowers that grow upon his of Massachusetts. This ripened into marriage national treaties, and other sacred matters they in 1860, not, however, without opposition on turn everybody out except themselves, lock the who preferred that she should marry a South- anxious candidate or journalistic Philistine ern genfleman. These objections were strength- shall get within earshot. They keep no record ened by the rumblings that betokened the com- of the proceedings, except what is actually spite of parental opposition. They made a brief personal and official honor, not to divulge the visit to her home, and after a partial reconcili- awful secrets of this star tribunal. Many of the some poor widow whose husband gave his life to ation returned North. That was the last time vounger Senators are outspoken in advocating she ever saw any member of her family.

mined to follow the fertunes of him with whom utive sessions "must go." she had cast her lot. In her devotion she ac-Mr. Johnston (Ind.), opposing Mr. Warner's | companied him to the front, and was with him amendment, and urging the passage of the bill, | whenever the exigencies of the service would permit. Much of her time was spent in the hospitals. Many sick and wounded soldiers had between the widow of the man who fell upon the battlefield and the widow of the man who got the tender ministrations. At Gettysburg her busband was mortally wounded, and a week later died in her arms. Allowing berself but a brief respite to bury her dead she dashed away her from disease contracted in the army.

And I do not believe the principle is right, which the gentlemen from Ohio [Mr. Warner] seeks to "without money and without price," continuing till the close of the war. She had learned during the first year of the

struggle that her father and her two brothers had entered the Confederate service. Her father became Colonel of a regiment and fell in one of the battles near Richmond in 1864. One of her brothers died of disease within a year of killed in the charge upon McPherson's line near Atlanta. Her mother sank under the weight of grief and died early in 1865. vivor of the family. All her father's property Mr. Townshend (III.) offered an amendment | had been dissipated and destroyed by the war. An effort was made to recover a portion of it for her, by reason of her great sacrifices and lisability contracted in the military or naval ser- labors, but only a trifling sum was rescued vice of the United States, and in the line of duty. from the ruin. She applied for and readily obtained a position in the Treasury, and for 18 years she has diligently and efficiently dismessenger boy, but she became able to send him to school, and he is now at Cornell Uni-

THE COLORED MEMBERS. There are two colored Congressmen in the House, one from each of the Carolinas. Robert Smalls, of South Carolina, is a nearly fullblooded negro, with all the physical characteristics of his race. He is short and heavy-set, with a plump, round face that shines like a well-blacked boot. His hair is tinged with white. He wears spectacles, and looks more like a Bishop or a Presiding Elder than anything else. He was born a slave in Beaufort, S. C., in 1839. Debarred by the law of the State from attending school he educated himself to the extent of such limited advantages as he could secure. During his younger days he led a seafaring life. He made himself famous in 1862 by getting possession of the rebel steamer Planter, then plying in Charleston harbor, took her over the bar, and delivered her to the commanding officer of the United States blockading squadron. He was appointed a pilot in the navy, serving in that capacity on the monitor Keokuk during the attack by Dupont on Fort Sumter. He was promoted to Capiain in 1863, and placed in command of the Planter, serving till the close of the war. He soon got into politics, and was at different times a member of both branches of the Legislature. He was also a Brigadier-General and a Major-General of the State militia. He has been a delegate to four National Republican conventions, and five times elected to Congress, the to \$12 a month. I do not know what estimate gen- last time by 4,000 majority. His district was tiemen can place upon the value of life, or what | made by bunching the "black" counties, three-fourths of its population being negroes. the life of the husband to his wife, who will meas- Mr. Smalls is a man of considerable ability, and well informed on many subjects. In manto the pittance of \$144 a year. and well informed on many subjects. In man-But, Mr. Chairman, in the very few moments of ner he is pleasant, courteous, and profoundly polite. No man in Congress can excel him in suavity and courtly bearing. He is no such orator as was Elliott, the colored Congressman who represented his district for several years

following the reconstruction. "Elliott was the smartest negro ever in Congress. James E. O'Hara, of North Carolina, is several shades lighter than Mr. Smalls. He was born in New York city in 1844. After receiving a good education he went to North Carolina, where he was admitted to the bar in 1875. He is, of course, a Republican, and carried his Distriet at the last election by nearly 7,000 majority. Mr. O'Hara is a good talker, and has the good sense not to arise unless he has something to say. In the last Congress he made it exceedingly interesting for the Democrats, who tried to so fix Reagan's Inter-State Commerce Bill as to admit of discrimination on account of geler in properties. color in providing accommodations for passengers on railway cars and steamboats. O'Hara was coached a little by Reed, Hiscock and Horr, but he made a splendid fight and won it. It came to nothing, however, as the bill failed in the Senate. Both Smalls and O'Hara are diligent, painstaking Members, and do great credit

to their race. DEATH OF REPRESENTATIVE RANKIN. Hon. Joseph R. Rankin, a Representative from Wisconsin, died in this city on Monday. His death was not unexpected, as he has been was pronounced beyond human aid. Just before the opening of Congress, although then thought to be at the point of death, he started for Washington to take his seat, which he is quoted as ment. Several times on the journey it was thought he would never reach its end, but he did, and when the Clerk of the House of Representatives called the name of Joseph R. Rankin on the first day of the session, he was in the last time that he was at the Capitol, and

the Union army for three years, and then re "The grateful thanks of the American people are | moved to Wisconsin, settling at Manitowoc. He due to the Union soldiers and sailors of the late war, served 11 years in the Wisconsin Legislature, was elected to the 48th Congress, and re-elected to the present one. He was a strong Democrat. of generous principles, and while a member of the Legislature was regarded as one of the 1879, so that all invalid soldiers shall share alike | brightest men in the State. While Mr. Rankin was preparing to come to this city last November, an enterprising politician with appalling 'cheek" went to him, and expressed a wish to succeed him in case he died. He wanted Mr. Rankin's indorsement, and got it with the laughing assurance from Mr. Rankin: "I will live a long time yet." Mr. Rankin's widow, son and daughter left for home with the re-

THE PRESIDENT AND TERPSICHORE. Monday evening the President laid aside the cares of state and rode over to Baltimore to attend the grand charity ball at the Academy of Music in that city. He was accompanied by Mrs. Endicott, Mrs. and Miss Vilas, Senator and Mrs. Gorman, Col. and Mrs. Lamont and others. The Pennsylvania Company furnished a special car for the distinguished company. The party returned to Washington the same night-that is to say, during the early hours of the next morning.

MR, CANNON TO RETIRE. Henry W. Cannon has tendered to the President his resignation as Controller of the Currency, to take effect Jan. 31. He has accepted the position of President of the National Bank of the Republic, in New York, at \$15,000 a year, and cannot be blamed for resigning an office that paid him but \$5,000. Though but a young man he is a brilliant financier, and has administered his office to the entire satisfaction, not only of the Republican Administration which appointed him, but of the Democratic Administration and was called to his present position when John

J. Knox retired. There is much vague specula-tion in regard to Mr. Cannon's successor. The difficulty is that the salary is not large enough to tempt a first-class financial man, whose services will command so much more elsewhere. The Week's Doings at the Na- By law a person holding the position of Controller of the Currency is not permitted to own any stock or be otherwise interested in any banking institution. It is not considered likely that the appointment will go to a New York man, as that State has already a good many fingers in the Treasury pie.

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS. Some of the Senators are making the period ical stir against "executive sessions" of the Senate. These have for many years been growor three years a private school in New York | they should be held at all. Under the prescity. While there an attachment was formed ent custom, whenever the Senators want to between her and a worthy young man, a native | consider | Presidential | nominations, interthe part of her family and friends, in whose doors, and post trusty sentinels to guard every minds existed the ante-bellum prejudice, and avenue of approach to the chamber, so that no ing storm. The young couple were married in | done, and all the Senators are pledged, on their open sessions at any and all times, but the old The following year the war broke out. Her frost-bitten statesmen are wedded to the tradiyoung husband early culisted, and was made a | tions of the past. They think everything must Lieutenant in a New York regiment. Her be done just as it has been, and are almost parfrom the terrible storms that sweep over those vast | friends in Mobile sent her urgent and repeated | alyzed at the temerity of the youthful members messages to return to her old home, but she cut | in even proposing such an innovation. But off all the associations of her youth and deter- | the world keeps moving right along, and exec-

> Senator Jones, of Nevada, has just reported for duty, not having been in his seat before during this session. For some months past he has been traveling in Alaska and British Columbia, examining some new discoveries of gold. Jones is an Englishman by birth, and is 56 years old. He is short and bulbons of body, and has a ruddy face and a round head covered with gray bair. His parents emigrated to this country when he was less than a year old and settled in Cleveland, O. While yet in his 'teens he went to California as one of the "Fortyniners," and was for many years engaged in mining, with indifferent success, and farming. In 1867 he went to Nevada, where he "struck it rich" and became famous as one of the bonanza kings. Although he did not acquire the wealth of Mackay, Fair, Flood, O'Brien and others, he was at one time rated up in the millions. A few years ago a streak of bad luck came and he lost a considerable part of his fortune. He picked up again, however, and there is every indication that he will manage to rub along. He is a brother of Thomas Jones, Postmaster at Cleveland, one of the Republicans who still hold the fort under a Democratic administration.

JONES, OF NEVADA.

DR. NEWMAN RETURNS. Rev. Dr. J. P. Newman will, it is definitely understood, return to the pastorate of the Metropolitan Methodist Church in Washington. He has been noted as the pastor of this church during the attendance there of President Grant, and for the strong friendship that existed between him and the latter up to the last moment of he officiated at the funeral. Dr. Newman is a man of marked ability, but for a few years past has been somewhat erratic in his theology. He went to New York, and under the patronage of Gen. Grant and others became pastor of a Congregational Church, but his independent way of managing matters resulted in a bad break in the society, after some very exciting business sessions, and he resigned the pastorate. Now he has returned from his wandering and is back in the fold of Methodism. He occupied the pulpit of the Metropolitan Church last Sunday, preaching twice to crowded congregations. He has many friends in Washington, and his return will be cordially welcomed. Gen. and Mrs.

Hugh M. Robb, 83d Ill., Galva, Kan. As an after-dinner pill, to promote easy di-

Logan are regular attendants at this church.

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